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| Date Mailed February 13, 1998 |
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BEFORE THE

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation,
as a Gas Public Utility, to Construct Facilities and Render
Natural Gas Service in the Town of Evergreen and
Portions of the Town of Polar, Langlade County, Wisconsin

6690-CG-138

**NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION
AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (WPS), as a gas public utility, filed an application with the Commission on July 15, 1997, and an amended application on November 10, 1997, for authority under s. 196.49, Stats., and Chapter PSC 133, Wis. Adm. Code, to construct facilities and render natural gas service in the Town of Evergreen and portions of the Town of Polar, Langlade County, Wisconsin.

WPS is proposing to install approximately 83,000 feet of plastic gas main and 133 services in the first year at an estimated cost of \$344,051. The project will serve an estimated 133 customers in the first year of construction. The project begins at the intersection of CTH M and North White Lake Road in the Town of Wolf River, Langlade County. From that point the gas main will run west along CTH M to STH 64, and west along STH 64 to its intersection with CTH S in the Town of Polar. There will also be short sections of main extending from this route along adjacent local roads.

In accordance with its filed extension rules WPS, is proposing to levy a surcharge on customers who receive service as part of this project. The proposed AEP surcharge is projected to be \$.0408 per therm for all customers.

WPSC has entered into a territorial agreement with City Gas Company, dividing the Town of Polar between the two companies. A copy of the territorial agreement was filed with the application in this case. The agreement assigns WPS Sections 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35, 36, the east half of sections 4, 9, 22, 27, 34 and various parts of sections 15 and 16 as described in the territorial agreement. The territorial agreement assigns the remaining portion of the Town of Polar to

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City Gas Company. City Gas Company has filed an application with the Commission for serving this territory (docket 1140-CG-104).

NOTICE IS GIVEN that the Commission will investigate the application without hearing.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Commission considers it necessary in order to carry out its duties to investigate the books, accounts, practices, and activities of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, as a gas public utility. The expenses incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to the investigation will be assessed against and collected from Wisconsin Public Service Corporation as a gas public utility, under s. 196.85, Stats., and Chapter PSC 5, Wis. Adm. Code.

This is a Type III action under PSC 4.10(3), Wis. Adm. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under s. 1.11, Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

If there are any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tom Stemrich, Natural Gas Division at (608) 266-2800.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

For the Commission:

Anita Sprenger, Administrator
Natural Gas Division

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